

have been very irregular in functioning and causing a lot of inconveniences to public; and

(c) whether Government would take steps to improve the working of the existing one and also open more computerised reservation counters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) One computerized reservation centre has been functional at Imphal since January, 1997.

(b) No, Sir. There has not been any significant failures or disruption during the last one year.

(c) To provide train reservation facilities at non-rail head locations, Computerised Passenger Reservation Centres have been sanctioned in 2006-07 for 7 more districts of Manipur viz. Bishnupur, Chandel, Churachandrapur, Senapati, Tamenglong, Thoubal and Porompat.

Restricting entry to platforms

†2704. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any such decision has been taken under which no person other than passengers can enter into the platforms at stations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when this decision would be implemented; and

(d) the amount earned by Railways every year from platform tickets and its percentage out of the amount earned from total selling of tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The amount earned from platform tickets and its percentage to total passenger earnings for the last three years (2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06) and 2006-07 (upto June, 2006) is as under:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Earnings from platform tickets	Total passenger earnings	Percentage
2003-04	3849	1329833	0.29
2004-05	4167	1411254	0.30
2005-06	6239	1512600	0.41
2006-07	1246	421827	0.30

Selling railway tickets through petrol pumps

2705. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sell railway tickets from the petrol pumps;

(b) whether any memorandum of understanding has been signed between his Ministry and petroleum companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has approached Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited to sell railway tickets through internet (e-tickets) from their petrol pumps/retail stores. This proposal is at preliminary stage of discussion.

Bookstall policy

2706. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bookstall policy as laid down in Board's letter No. 2000/TGIII/464/18 Policy, dated 11th June, 2004 is being followed on in Indian Railways;